AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 13, of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Meanwhile, the preference data generator 150 receives the preference value and the reference value generated in the preference obtainer 100, generates preference meta-data having at least one feature block, and includes a meta-data updating unit 16 and a ~~metal-data~~ <u>meta-data</u> generating unit 18.

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended version of the Abstract:

A method and apparatus for generating user preference data regarding the color characteristic of an image ~~and a method and apparatus for converting image color preference using the method and apparatus~~ is provided <u>where a preference image comprises an image converted to have a color characteristic that a user prefers with respect to a predetermined reference image, a preference value comprises a color characteristic value of the preference image, and a reference value comprises a color characteristic value of the reference image</u>. The method for generating user preference data comprises (a) obtaining an image color characteristic value of a preference image and a reference image, (b) generating {preference value, reference value} which corresponds to a pair of the preference value and the reference value, and (c) generating the pair {preference value, reference value} as preference meta-data having at least one feature block. ~~The method for converting image color preference comprises calculating a color characteristic value with respect to an input image, generating preference meta-data~~

~~having at least one feature block, the feature block comprising a block header~~

~~including a feature identifier corresponding to information identifying a color~~

~~characteristic and at least one feature descriptor including the preference value and~~

~~the reference value, obtaining a color characteristic value with respect to the input~~

~~image using the calculated color characteristic value of the input image and the color~~

~~preference data, and converting the color characteristic of the input image so that the~~

~~input image has the obtained color characteristic value.~~